

British Officials Declare Allied Forces Are Gaining Ground

be mounted they will not be so deadly against a fast-moving fleet as against the stationary forts they destroyed so easily.

While this life and death struggle is going on in the west, the French have become more active along the Belgian border, and are said to be making preparations and securing advanced positions in view of possible attacks by the Germans with their big howitzers on the Belgian fortresses. It now seems to be realized that no fortress has any chance of holding out when once these big German guns are brought into action against it.

The German official report to-night again speaks of the German offensive on Augustow, Russian Poland, which, it declares, is progressing. It reiterates that the battle near Ivangorod, although favorable to the Germans, remains undecided.

GERMANS STILL BEING PURSUED BY RUSSIANS
North of this section the Russians claim they are still pursuing the Germans, who attempted an advance on Warsaw, and southward to have crossed the Vistula and driven the Austrians back.

In Galicia and in the Carpathians the Russians also claim to have broken down the Austrian offensive.

As the days come and go, and the promised visits of the Zeppelins to England do not materialize, the public, seemingly, is beginning to believe these monster aircraft are being held in reserve for the day when the German comes out, and that they will be used in force to assist the warships in an endeavor to cripple the British fleet.

NO PROGRESS MADE BY GERMAN FORCES

PARIS, October 26.—The following official communication was issued by the French War Office to-night:
"In Belgium, Nieuport has been violently bombarded and the effort of the Germans has continued on the front between Nieuport and Dixmude, without, according to the latest advices, any result whatever having been reached."
"All the front comprised between Labasse and the Somme has been equally the object of violent attacks at night, all of which have been repulsed, and on the remainder of the front there is nothing to report."

VON FALKENHAIN NAMED SUCCESSOR TO VON MOLTKE

PARIS, October 26 (6:47 P. M.).—The Rome correspondent of the Havas Agency says that, according to dispatches received in Rome from Berlin, Major-General Erich von Falkenhain, the German Minister of War, has been appointed chief of the general staff, succeeding General Helmuth von Moltke, who is ill.

DEMANDS SURRENDER OF JAPANESE BOAT

PEKING, October 27 (4:05 A. M.).—The Chinese Foreign Minister has demanded the surrender of a Japanese torpedo boat which, while entering Chinese waters and substituted the Japanese flag for the Chinese dragon and attempted to tow away the wrecked German torpedo-boat S-90.

QUESTION RAISED AS TO PROPRIETY OF ACT

HONOLULU, October 26.—Transfer of the crew of the German power schooner Aetolus, sunk by the Japanese battleship Aikido, was questioned yesterday by that warship to a launch of the North German Lloyd refugee steamer Locksun outside the harbor yesterday. The Japanese questioner, who was of this act, the Locksun is anchored here, and there is uncertainty as to whether her sending out a launch did not constitute a breach of neutrality. As there were no Japanese warships in the harbor, a possible breach of the immigration law also is involved.

It is understood that the situation here had improved, finally before Washington for decision.

The Marshall Islands, succeeded yesterday in running a blockade established outside this port by the battleship Hizen, and is now safe under the protection of American neutrality.

OFFICIALS SEE NO BREACH OF NEUTRALITY

WASHINGTON, October 26.—Officials here to-day could not see a breach of neutrality in the reported transportation of German prisoners from the Japanese cruiser Hizen to the steamer Locksun, a German merchant vessel, in Honolulu harbor.

The commander of the Japanese warship, it is said, was reluctant to land the crew of a vessel which it had sunk in any neutral port, if he did not care to retain them as prisoners aboard the ship or carry them to Japan.

The Locksun is not armed, and can leave at any time if her captain cares to run the risk of capture on the high seas by British or Japanese cruisers.

BIG GERMAN GUNS ACTIVE AT BRUGES

AMSTERDAM, HOLLAND, October 26 (via London, 6 P. M.).—The Telegraf learns that several forty-two-centimetre howitzers and ten twenty-eight-centimetre guns have arrived at Bruges. The Germans also have posted guns between Zeebrugge and Heyst (a Belgian seaport) some nine miles north of Bruges.

Near Nieuport the position of the allies has improved, according to the Telegraf.

SEVERAL SUCCESSSES GAINED BY AUSTRILIANS

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
MANCHESTER, MASS., October 26.—Dumb, the Austro-Hungarian ambassador, to-day issued the following official wireless statement transmitted from Vienna:
"Our armies and strong German forces now occupy a newly fortified front from the Carpathians to the neighborhood of Ploek, where they confront the Russians."

"The Austrian troops have again gained several successes in central districts of Galicia."

"Strong Serbian and Montenegrin forces, which had entered Southeastern Bosnia and were harassing the population by a reign of murder and pillage, have been defeated as a result of a three days' battle and have been forced hastily to retreat."

JAPANESE PRISONERS IN GERMANY RELEASED

one Japanese, held prisoners in Germany, have been released and escorted out of the country, according to advices to the State Department to-day. This leaves thirty-eight Japanese, in addition, concerning whom the Japanese ambassador has inquired and it is believed are still held in Germany.

FRENCH PRISONERS SHOT BY GERMAN

WASHINGTON, October 26.—The French embassy to-day issued the following statement:
"The report appeared in the press some time ago, according to which General Stenger, commanding a brigade of the German army in France, had issued an order to his troops prescribing that they give no quarter to any prisoners, but shoot them all and finish the wounded."

"An official statement from Berlin, via Sayville, was issued this morning declaring that this was an 'imputed' dictum. The atrocious order had, nevertheless, really been given and carried out."

and proof of it is in the hands of the French government. Over twenty German prisoners of the One Hundred and Twelfth and One Hundred and Forty-second Regiments of Infantry (forming the Stenger Brigade) are now held in France, at Aloubert and St. Etienne. They have declared, under oath, before the magistrate, that this order was actually issued on the 26th of August, and that in accordance with it, all French wounded found that day and on other dispatched. Officers, and notably Captain Curtius, of the One Hundred and Twelfth Regiment, personally supervised the execution of the order."

GERMAN AMBASSADOR

WASHINGTON, October 26.—The German point of view in that by joining in a European war Canada has put herself outside the pale of the Monroe Doctrine, but Germany has not the intention of attacking Canada nor colonizing Canada.

This statement was issued here to-day by the German embassy.

The statement was an amplification of the view expressed yesterday by Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, that by taking part in the war, the Canadians have justified an aggressive campaign against Canada.

To further explain the reason that caused the German government in a formal note delivered to the State Department by Count Bernstorff, yesterday pledging Germany not to attempt colonial expansion in South America, no matter what the outcome of the war, the embassy issued this statement:

"The note was written at that time because Winston Churchill had said in his message to the American people that if Germany was victorious in the present war she would attack the Monroe Doctrine."

SITUATION CONTINUES VERY SATISFACTORY

LONDON, October 26 (10:41 P. M.).—The official press bureau issued the following statement at 10:40 this evening:
"The situation continues satisfactory."

"The fighting is severe and continuous, but ground is being made and many prisoners have been taken."

"On our divisions has captured two guns."

CASUALTY LIST SHOWS FIFTEEN OFFICERS KILLED

LONDON, October 26 (9:10 P. M.).—A casualty list issued to-night, dated October 22-23, reported fifteen officers killed, fifty-two wounded and seventeen missing. Among the wounded are Lieutenant Sir Philip Lee Broekheurst, who accompanied the British Antarctic expedition in 1907.

GERMANS ATTACKED AT BAYONET'S POINT

PARIS, October 26 (12:40 A. M.).—The Havas Agency has received a Petrograd the following official communication issued in the Russian capital:
"The combat upon the routes leading to Petrograd and Rostov have assumed the character of a great battle, of which the front extends over 100 versts (a verst is two-thirds of a mile), from Rawa to the mouth of the River Dnieper."

"The evening of October 21, north of Rawa, we attacked the Germans at the point of the bayonet, inflicting upon them considerable losses. On a village alone we buried over 200 Germans."

"In a bayonet combat near the village of Mazamet, we captured two batteries of machine guns."

"Our troops command the forest southeast of Rawa, where we took over 400 prisoners. In the forest between Radom and Kozienitz, tenacious combat continued."

"We have progressed along the routes from Nova to Alexandria, where we captured numerous prisoners and cannon."

"The stubborn resistance of the Austrians in Galicia is weakening, and our troops are making vigorous progress in the region south of Sember and Sembrat, where we have taken eleven cannon and many caissons."

"The entire valley of the River Sprynje is covered with bodies of the enemy, estimated to aggregate at least 30,000."

"All attempts by the Germans to resume a partial offensive on the Eastern Prussian front have been repelled."

NO BASIS FOR SUMMING UP AS TO GENERAL RESULT

PARIS, October 26.—The incessant advances and withdrawals of the allies and Germans, particularly in the north, suggested early to-day a basis for a summing up as to a general result. The Germans, judging from their faithful sacrifice of men, seem determined to force the battle to an issue. Nevertheless, the French public, after analyzing the situation as indicated in the latest War Office statements, continued optimistic.

While awaiting further news from the front, there is considerable interest in the action of the Institute of France will take regarding its German correspondents and associates. The institute was expected to meet to-day. There has been considerable difference of view among the members as to whether the German members should be expelled, while the press has taken a large part in the discussion. Because of statutory dispositions and decrees there has been some difficulty in reaching a decision. Incidentally one of the academicians has expressed himself in favor of returning all of the diplomatic orders and titles received from Germany.

HOSTILE POSITIONS

BERLIN (via Amsterdam and London), October 26 (3:30 P. M.).—A report from general headquarters, dated Monday morning, says:
"West of the Yser Canal between Nieuport and Dixmude, which is still occupied by the enemy, our troops attacked the hostile positions which are completely defended."

"The British fleet co-operated, but was forced back by the heavy artillery fire. Three ships were hit. During the afternoon of October 25, the fleet kept beyond the distance of sight in reaching the Yser."

"Near Ypres the battle is stagnant. Southwest of Ypres, and west and southwest of Lille our attacks are progressing. During severe street fighting, the English suffered great losses, leaving about 500 prisoners."

"North of Arras a heavy French attack broke down, the French losses being severe."

"In the eastern theatre of the war our offensive on Augustow is progressing. The battle near Ivangorod is favorable, but till now there has been no decision."

STEAMER SUNK BY MINE

Twenty or Thirty Drowned, Owing to Panic Which Prevailed.

DOVER, October 26 (via London, 10:26 P. M.).—The steamer Admiral Latouche was sunk to-day by a mine just outside the Dover harbor. Twenty or thirty persons were drowned, owing to the panic which prevailed as the passengers were being transferred to the cross-channel steamer Queen, which rushed to the assistance of the sinking vessel.



A Wounded Belgian Officer Arriving at Folkestone

A Belgian officer wounded in the defense of Antwerp, arriving at Folkestone in charge of an English Red Cross nurse and a Boy Scout. The Boy Scouts are leading valuable aid to the Red Cross nurses who meet the wounded on their arrival on British soil.

VIVID DESCRIPTION OF BATTLE ALONG YSER

Air, Sea and Land Engines Death-Sweep This Desolate Country Simultaneously.

ACTIONS BY ARMORED TRAINS

Each Day Accumulates an Unwritten Record of Individual Daring Feats—Men Push Out on Dangerous Explorations to Support Lines.

LONDON, October 26.—The correspondent of the Daily News, who has been in an armored train to the banks of the Yser, gives a good description of the battle in the northwest. He says:

"The battle rages along the Yser with frightful destruction of life. Air engines, sea engines and land engines death-sweep this desolate country, vertically, horizontally and transversely. Through the little frail human engines crawl and dig, walk and run, skirmishing, charging and blundering in little individual fights and tussles, tired, aching, where they can, never washing and drying themselves. A friend may find himself dying on a friendly force, and few are to blame."

"Thursday the Germans were driven back over the Yser. Friday they secured a footing again, and Saturday they were again hurled back. Now a bridge blown up is repaired by the other, it is again blown up by the first or left as a death trap, till the enemy is actually crossing."

"Actions by armored trains, some of them the most reckless adventures, are daily being undertaken. Each day accumulates an unwritten record of individual daring feats, accepted as part of the daily work. Day by day our men push out on these dangerous explorations, attacked by shell fire, in danger of cross-fire, dynamite and ambushes, bringing a priceless support to the threatened lines."

EAR CRACKS WITH CONSTANT THUNDER OF GUNS ABOARD

"As the armored train approaches the river under shell fire, the ear cracks with the constant thunder of guns aboard. It is amazing to see the angle at which the guns can be swung. And overhead, the airmen are busy venturing through clouds of exploding shells to get one small fraction of information. We used to regard the looping the loop of the Germans overhead as a feat of marksmanship, but now we know it means extra trouble for the infantry."

"Beside us as we crawl up, snuffing the lines like dog on a scent, grim trainloads of wounded wait soundlessly in the sidings. Further up the line ambulances are coming slowly back. The bullets of machine guns begin to rattle on our armored coverings. Such we learned to disregard, but the machine gun is the master in this war."

"Now we near the river at a flat country farm. The territory is scarred with trenches, and it is impossible to say at first who is in them. So incidental and separate are the fortunes are on our bank enfilading the lines of the allies' trenches. We creep up, and the Germans come into sight out of the trenches rush to the bank and are scattered and smashed. The allies follow with a fierce bayonet charge."

"The Germans do not wait. They rush to the bridges, and are swept away by the deadliest destroyer of all—the machine gun. The bridge is blown up, but who can say by whom? Quickly the train runs back."

"A brisk day," remarks the correspondent. "Not so bad," replies the officer. "So the day passes."

SMASHING TACTICS OF GERMAN CONTINUES

PARIS, October 26 (11:36 P. M.).—The smashing tactics of the Germans along the North Sea coast line continued incessantly to-day when the big guns were turned on Nieuport and the allies had to withstand constant attacks of masses of troops. Little progress, however, was made by the Germans.

Yesterday's crossing of the Yser apparently had only a moral effect, as the Germans were confronted by solid lines of allied troops, and were prevented from advancing, without overhauling efforts further toward the channel ports.

The character of the country prohibits a rapid movement, as the land is cut up by canals, and two strong series of defensive works separate them from Dunkirk.

INSISTS ON RIGHT OF HALTING SHIPS TO INSPECT CARGO

(Continued From First Page.)

"Last night I received a reply from Sir Edward Grey in which he authorizes me to give assurance that cotton will not be seized. He points out that cotton has not been put in any of our lists of contraband, and as your department must be aware from the draft proclamation now in your possession, it is not proposed to include it in our new list of contraband. It is therefore, as far as Great Britain is concerned, in the free list and will remain there."

EVERY PENDING QUESTION NOW IS CLEARED UP

The announcement from London that the American tanker Brindilla had been ordered released at Halifax, N. S., and that the Plutaria, held on the coast of Scotland, would be permitted to continue her voyage, cleared up every pending question on the subject of shipping which had arisen in the past week. It is not proposed to include it in our new list of contraband. It is therefore, as far as Great Britain is concerned, in the free list and will remain there."

"Great Britain's decision not to raise the question of change of registry in either the case of the Brindilla or the Plutaria strengthened the belief of administration officials that there would be no difficulty in this connection where the ownership of vessels was changed and their flag was continuously American."

The attitude of the British government in these matters was regarded by the administration as completely satisfactory, assurances that cotton cargoes would not be molested even when bound for belligerent countries being particularly welcome. As a result of these definite assurances, Secretary McAdoo issued the following statement to-night:

"There is no reason why underwriters who cover marine and war risk insurance should now hesitate to issue policies of cotton in neutral bottoms, so far as Great Britain is concerned. The bureau of war risk insurance of the Treasury Department is writing insurances freely on cotton when carried in American vessels."

NO RECEPTION ON NEW YEAR'S

Event at White House Abandoned Because of Mrs. Wilson's Death.

WASHINGTON, October 26.—Word was unofficially given to-day that the usual New Year's reception to citizens will be abandoned this year because of the recent death of Mrs. Wilson.

This probably means the state social functions will likewise be given up in looking up precedents. It has been discovered that all social activities were eliminated the winter following the death of the mother of Benjamin Harrison.

MEMBERS OF JURY IN MURDER CASE

Threatened to Stay Out All Winter. SCRANTON, PA., October 26.—After being locked up for three days and a half, the jury in the case of William Pennam, tried here last week on a charge of murdering Mary Quinn, twelve years old, sent out for charges of clothing (a night, some members declaring they would stay all winter rather than agree to a verdict).

The jury reportedly has no opinion of the case, and each time has been informed that a verdict must be reached before it can be discharged.

FRENCH MAINTAIN LINE ALONG GENERAL FRONT

German Forces Which Crossed Yser Between Nieuport and Dixmude Not Able to Progress.

HEAVY LOSSES SUSTAINED

In Russia Kaiser's Army Has Been Forced Back on Three Towns, Which Were Captured at Bayonet Point—Czar's Forces Cross Vistula.

PARIS, October 26.—The French official communication given out this afternoon says that yesterday the French line between Nieuport and Dixmude was maintained.

"During the day of yesterday our front along the general line between Nieuport and Dixmude was maintained. The German forces which crossed the Yser between those towns have not been able to progress. Our front was held also in the region between Ypres and Roulois, between Armentieres and Lille, to the west of Labasse and Lens, and to the east of Arras. This line is continued to the south by the line which already has been indicated in these official communications. During the fighting of recent days the enemy seems to have sustained considerable losses."

"In Russia, to the west of the Vistula and to the north of the Pilica River, the Germans have been forced back on Lowicz, Skiermowice and Rawa, which have been captured at the bayonet point by the Russians."

"To the south of the Pilica, in the direction of Radom, there has been a lively engagement between the Russians and the Austro-Germans, who lost prisoners and cannon."

"To the south of Solec, the Russian troops crossed the Vistula by main force, driving the Austrians back on the River San and to the south of Przemyśl there have occurred stubborn combats, resulting favorably to the Russians. An Austrian column descending from the Carpathians near Dolina (in Galicia, twenty-two miles to the south of Stry), was routed."

WILL NOT AGREE TO VERDICT

Members of Jury in Murder Case Threatened to Stay Out All Winter.

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NEARLY 300,000 PRISONERS OF WAR NOW IN GERMANY

AMSTERDAM, October 26.—Berlin dispatches say the number of prisoners of war in Germany up to October 21 was 298,969, including 5,591 officers. This total includes French, 146,897 men; Russian, 2,572 officers, 104,521 men; Belgians, 31,378 men; English, 213 officers, 8,668 men.

Further convoys of prisoners are en route. Generals now in German fortresses number twenty-seven, of which six are French, eighteen Russians, including two commanding generals and three Belgians.

SITUATION CONTINUES FAVORABLE FOR ALLIES

British and French Troops Able to Record Considerable Gains.

NO DISTINCTIVE RESULTS

All-Engrossing Subject in London Now is Prospective Activity of German Fleet, Which May Attack English Off Belgian Coast.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.]
LONDON, October 26.—Official advices from the battle front in France say the situation continues favorable for the allies. Two guns have been captured and the British and French troops have been able to record considerable gains, although no distinctive result is yet in sight.

This in brief epitomizes the day's fighting, although there is much left to the imagination. For instance, Englishmen would like to know just how much of an advance the Germans were able to make when they crossed the Yser. The Berlin report is cloudy on this subject, but well prompting the deduction that the gain was not of any great consequence, at least not any more than was offset by the forward movement of the allied troops on other sections of the battle front.

Just now the all-engrossing subject is the prospective activity of the German fleet. Whether the Kaiser will order his ships out to engage the British fleet off the Belgian coast in an effort to relieve the distressing pressure being exerted against the right flank of the allied forces trying to push forward on Dunkirk and Calais, or continue to satisfy himself with sporadic attacks by his submarines, is one which greatly interests the naval contingent.

The blows struck at the German ships by the British ships must soon excite the German admiralty to a desire for retaliation. It is thought, therefore, the effort of the allied submarines off Flanders has not been very gratifying to the enemy.

The impending evacuation of Ostend and the reduction of the German garrison at Antwerp are the subject of incessant rumors. This is taken to be either a sign of preparation for a retreat or an index to the violence of the effort Germany is making to throw behind her line in Flanders the supreme strength of her armies.

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An aftermath of the planting of a British shell in the dining-room where the German general staff was directed in the Hotel Majestic at Ostend was the arrest to-day of the entire hotel staff, on the charge that one of their number was directing the fire of the British ships.

German sources are responsible for the recurrent report that Count Helmut von Moltke, chief of the general staff, has just been relieved of his duty. One report says the aged tactician and strategist has been taken to Berlin on a litter, and that his death is expected hourly. No confirmation of the report is obtainable.

Leaves Estate to College.
DAVIDSON, N. C., October 26.—The will of the late J. B. Cornelius, after making provision for his family, leaves all his property to Davidson College. The estate is at from \$250,000 to \$300,000.

NEGRO PRISONER KILLED WHILE TRYING TO ESCAPE
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
LYNDHURST, N. Y., October 26.—After picking up the body of a negro in the city jail last night, secretly himself in the corridor and loudly begging for mercy, the prisoner was shot and killed by the deputy sheriff. The negro was in jail for robbery, and the County Jail being held for transfer to the reform school. The body of the negro was shot in the head as he was preparing to jump from the window of the jail office. He died in fifteen minutes.

GERMANY LODGES PROTEST
Declares England's Seizure of Hospital Ship Violates Hague Convention.

THE HAGUE, October 26 (via London, 10:55 P. M.).—The German minister here announces that his government has lodged a protest against Great Britain's seizure of the German hospital ship Ophelia, declaring this act violates the Hague Convention.

The Ophelia was taken into Yarmouth Roads October 19 by a British cruiser, which picked her up in the North Sea. She was flying the Red Cross flag when boarded. The vessel was fitted with fifty beds, and had a complete equipment for a floating hospital.

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